

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A transmission apparatus comprising:

transmit data generation means for generating transmit
data by linking to main data representing an image and/or audio
5 accessory information including information on a frame rate of
this main data; and

transmission processing means for performing output
processing on the transmit data via a transmission channel,

wherein the transmit data generation means includes:

10 accumulation means for accumulating the main data
temporarily; and

read processing means for controlling read
processing of the main data accumulated in the
accumulation means,

15 wherein the transmission processing means informs the read
processing means of a band of the transmission channel, and

wherein the read processing means controls reading of the
main data in accordance with the band thus informed, thereby
adjusting the frame rate of the main data.

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2. (Deleted)

3. (Amended) The transmission apparatus according to claim
1, further comprising information modification means for
25 modifying frame rate information contained in the accessory
information, in response to adjustment of the frame rate by the
read processing means.

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4. The transmission apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the accessory information includes information indicating
a recommended reproduction speed of the main data.

5 5. The transmission apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the accessory information includes information indicating
a reproduction-enabling maximum speed of the main data.

6. The transmission apparatus according to claim 1,
10 wherein the transmit data generation means links as the accessory
information at least the frame rate information and frame
identification information of each frame included in a reference
frame period to the main data.

15 7. The transmission apparatus according to claim 6,
wherein the transmit data generation means includes:
 accumulation means for accumulating the main data
temporarily; and
 read processing means for controlling read
20 processing of the main data accumulated in the accumulation
means,

 wherein the transmission processing means informs the
transmit data generation means of a band of the transmission
channel, and

25 wherein the read processing means controls reading of the
main data in accordance with the informed band utilizing the frame
identification information, thereby adjusting the frame rate of
the main data.

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8. The transmission apparatus according to claim 7,
further comprising information modification means for modifying
the frame rate information and the frame identification
5 information which are contained in the accessory information, in
response to adjustment of the frame rate by the read processing
means.

9. (Amended) A transmission method comprising:
10 a transmit data generation step for generating transmit
data by linking to main data representing an image and/or audio
accessory information including information on a frame rate of
this main data; and
a transmission processing step for performing output
15 processing on the transmit data via a transmission channel,
wherein the transmit data generation step includes a read
processing step for controlling read processing of the main data
temporarily accumulated in accumulation means; and
wherein in the read processing step, reading of the main
20 data is controlled in accordance with a band of the transmission
channel, thereby adjusting the frame rate of the main data.

10. (Deleted)

25 11. (Amended) The transmission method according to claim 9,
further comprising an information modification step for modifying
the frame rate information contained in the accessory information,
in response to adjustment of the frame rate by the read

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processing step.

12. The transmission method according to claim 9, wherein
the accessory information includes information indicating a
5 recommended reproduction speed of the main data.

13. The transmission method according to claim 9, wherein
the accessory information includes information indicating a
reproduction-enabling maximum speed of the main data.

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14. The transmission method according to claim 9, wherein
in the transmit data generation step, as the accessory
information, at least the frame rate information and frame
identification information of each frame included in a reference
15 frame period are linked to the main data.

15. The transmission method according to claim 14,
wherein the transmit data generation step includes a read
processing step for controlling read processing of the main data
20 temporarily accumulated in accumulation means; and

wherein in the read processing step, reading of the main
data is controlled in accordance with a band of the transmission
channel utilizing the frame identification information, thereby
adjusting the frame rate of the main data.

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16. The transmission method according to claim 15, further comprising an information modification step for modifying the frame rate information and the frame identification information which are contained in the accessory information, in response to
5 adjustment of the frame rate in the read processing step.

17. A program for causing a computer to perform a transmission method, the method comprising:

a transmit data generation step for generating transmit
10 data by linking to main data representing an image and/or audio accessory information including information on a frame rate of this main data; and

a transmission processing step for performing output processing on the transmit data via a transmission channel.

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18. A reproduction apparatus comprising:

setting means for, based on information of a frame rate of transmit data composed by linking to main data representing an image and/or audio accessory information including information of
20 a frame rate of this main data, setting a variable reproduction range indicating a range of the frame rate of the main data to be reproduced; and

reproduction means for reproducing the main data at a frame rate in the variable reproduction range.

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19. The reproduction apparatus according to claim 18, wherein if the accessory information includes information indicating a recommended reproduction speed of the main data and a

user avoids specifying a reproduction speed thereof, the reproduction means reproduces the main data at the recommended reproduction speed.

5 20. The reproduction apparatus according to claim 18, wherein if the accessory information includes information indicating a reproduction-enabling maximum speed of the main data, the setting means sets the variable reproduction speed range using the information that indicates this maximum speed.

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 21. The reproduction apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the accessory information includes frame identification information of each frame included in a reference frame period and the reproduction means performs thinning-out or repeating
15 processing on the main data utilizing the frame identification information, thereby making a reproduction speed of the main data variable.

 22. A reproduction method comprising:

20 a setting step for, based on information of a frame rate of transmit data composed by linking to main data representing an image and/or audio accessory information including information of a frame rate of this main data, setting a variable reproduction range indicating a range of the frame rate of the main data to be
25 reproduced; and

 a reproduction step for reproducing the main data at a frame rate in the variable reproduction range.

23. The reproduction method according to claim 22, wherein in the reproduction step, if the accessory information includes information indicating a recommended reproduction speed of the main data and a user avoids specifying the reproduction speed
5 thereof, the main data is reproduced at the recommended reproduction speed.

24. The reproduction method according to claim 22, wherein in the setting step, if the accessory information includes
10 information indicating a reproduction-enabling maximum speed of the main data, the variable reproduction speed range is set using the information that indicates this maximum speed.

25. The reproduction method according to claim 22, wherein
15 the accessory information includes frame identification information of each frame included in a reference frame period and in the reproduction step, thinning-out or repeating processing is performed on the main data utilizing the frame identification information, thereby making a reproduction speed of the main data
20 variable.

26. A program for causing a computer to perform a reproduction method, the method comprising:

a setting step for, based on information of a frame rate of
25 transmit data composed by linking to main data representing an image and/or audio accessory information including information of a frame rate of this main data, setting a variable reproduction

range indicating a range of the frame rate of the main data to be reproduced; and

a reproduction step for reproducing the main data at a frame rate in the variable reproduction range.

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27. A recording medium for recording main data representing an image and/or audio with accessory information including information of a frame rate of this main data being linked to the main data.

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28. The recording medium according to claim 27, wherein the accessory information includes frame identification information of each frame included in a reference frame period.